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EL FISICO NUCLEAR MAKES SPECTACULAR DEBUT IN L. A.

Our lead story this week is the spectacular introduction to the world of lucha libre fans of a new luchador, el Fisico Nuclear (Jeffrey Larson), who debuted for Jalisco Promotions this past Sunday, July 19th, 1992, at the All Nations Center in East Los Angeles, California.

El Fisico Nuclear's debut match was the second match of the five-match card at the All Nations Center. He was opposed by veteran luchador Vandal Drummond (Kurt Brown), the world's second-best luchador of Scottish origins (behind Ian Hotchkinson, who wrestles as Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense in Mexico).

The match turned out to be very good, surprisingly so for a debut match, after a slow start. The first fall went along fine for the first two to three minutes when it seemed that the wrestlers "lost the match." They miscommunicated and started missing spots. Well, what would a debut match be without opening-night jitters? Things soon got back on track and began flowing the way of rudo Drummond. Drummond eventually took the first fall cleanly with the *Gori Especial* (Argentinian) backbreaker at the 6:26 mark. At the end of this fall, Drummond started celebrating his victory by prancing around the ring, fluffing his enormous hair and insulting as many of the ringside *porra tecnica* as possible (and insulting them in Spanish, I might add, no mean feat for a wrestler just learning the language).

The second fall saw Drummond raise up the heat level one more notch, as he opened things up by lounging haughtily on the top rope corner turnbuckle a la Bobby Fulton. When Drummond got back into action, he found that the second fall did not go quite so well. At the 4:15 mark, el Fisico Nuclear landed a "Patriot missile" (diving shoulder block from off of the top rope), a well know hard-core lucha libre move (NOT), and then made Drummond submit to The Killer's and The Pegasus Kid's finisher, la *cavernaria*.

Despite the hot comeback against a hated rudo, the heat died down a bit in the third fall. El Fisico Nuclear was trying his heart out, tossing Drummond this way and that, but not getting quite so much reaction as he had hoped for. Suddenly at ringside appeared Drummond's regular pareja partner, The Thunder Machine, who is legitimately one of the two or three most hated rudos in Jalisco Promotions. Helped by Machine's distracting presence (and moral support) at ringside, Drummond regained the advantage and went to work on el Fisico Nuclear's left arm. Finally, Drummond made el Fisico Nuclear submit at the 4:16 mark to the Fujiwara arm bar (you may also recognize it as the move Dick Murdoch was using as his finisher when he was in for a brief stint with Dick Slater as The Hard Line Collection Agency in WCW). Drummond and Machine partied on back to the locker room in celebration while el Fisico Nuclear stood in the ring, sadly raised his hand in an "I tried" gesture, and got a rather decent amount of sympathetic applause from the crowd. All told, the wrestlers were out for a match time of 14:57 and a total time of about 22 minutes from ring entrance to exit, and I gave the match * 7/8.

Speaking of the crowd (which was down somewhat from the weeks right before the AAA/WWA started running in Southern California) it's amazing they weren't completely burned out. The first match was out (from entrance to exit) well over 36 minutes, which may be the longest first match of a card I have ever heard of. In the match, which in actual ring time lasted 28:08, rudos el Ponky Boy II and el Maytor defeated la Sombra de Plata and el Palomo Ramirez two falls to one. El Maytor was making his debut in this match; though to me they all looked less seasoned than I expected. The first fall went 10:50 before el Maytor pinned the tiny la Sombra de Plata with a spinning big splash. During the intermission between the first and second fall, the four brawled outside the ring and rammed each other into the post. There really should be some control for this because the rookies in the opening match should not be "stealing" from the main event scenarios. The second fall went to the tecnicos in 7:39, ending when Ramirez pinned el Maytor with the jackknife. The third fall went a long 9:39 (you can even {barely} hear some of the fans near the video camera recording this commenting how this is the match that will never end and here are four wrestlers in search of a finish). Finally, the rudos made Ramirez submit to a double-team nutcracker and made a Sombra de Plata submit to a double-team double-leg boston crab submission hold. In the third fall, the rudos did a

double-team backdrop on la Sombra de Plata where the latter was dropped straight on his head and he was groggy for the rest of the match. It looked like a cool move anyway. For a grade, this match went way too long and they ran out of gas at the end, so that takes at * 1/2, match down to just 1/2 *. Brevity is the essence of wit. I believe in, you do your stuff, you get your heat, you say what you want, and then you get out of there.

The tercera of the evening saw a *mano a mano* match between el nuevo rudo Flash and the returning tecnico el Nuevo Imagen. This match went the shortest so far, only 13:18, with el Nuevo Imagen winning two falls to one. Imagen won the first fall with a rolling reverse cradle in 4:47. Flash got a clean submission in the second fall with a *desnuncadora* side submission hold. Finally, the tecnico closed things out, winning just as my video tape made a jump cut at the 2:55 mark. This was the best match of the three so far as they kept to the ideas expressed in the final sentence of the paragraph immediately preceding this one. ** 1/2.

The semifinal continued the Guatemala versus Mexico war. The rudos were Mexican-American el Torito and legitimate Guatemalans os Verdugos "Uno y Dos" (that's what the ring announced called them). They battled the tecnico trio of the debuting el Neutron III, el Condor Azul (appearing without his mask as he just recently lost it), and the returning Coliman. The captains for this encounter were Coliman and el Verdugo Uno. The first fall started out with the first-rate comedy spots, in which one member of each team hip-tossed the referee to prove that the wrestler in question was not using tights or doing anything illegal to do the hip toss. Sadly, I thought that was about the best spot of the match. The tecnicos won the first fall in 9:31 when Coliman pinned el Verdugo Uno with the power bomb. During the first intermission, the tecnicos ripped off the supposedly-heel referee's t-shirt. The second fall went 6:21 before el Verdugo Dos made el Condor Azul submit to the *el Gori Especial*/backbreaker. The third fall ended at 7:01 (and the match, therefore, ended at 22:54, when all three rudos made el Condor Azul submit to a make your opponent stand on his head and then pull his legs apart like a wishbone submission hold. The heat here was all for Mexico; even the ring announcer started a cheer for Mexico! Chairs were used (again) in this match. I didn't think very much of this rudo team (despite the heat) and the whole time out there was over 32:00, so I gave it * 1/4.

The main event saw Mexico city wrestlers Khayyam and el Enigma de Oro (rudos) defeat el Capitan Oro and Super Boy (back as a tecnico) two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 14:29. The rudos won the first fall in 5:16 when they made el Capitan Oro submit and pinned him at the same time with a wishbone. The second fall last 3:48 before Super Boy pinned Khayyam with a *tope en reversa*. The rudos won the third fall when, after a ref bump, Kayyam and el Capitan Oro knocked heads and were knocked out; Super Boy puts his brother on top; el Enigma de Oro reverses things and puts Khayyam on top; and Enigma fouls Super Boy as the latter is trying to make the save at 5:25. I was very disappointed in this match; I've seen especially Super Boy do so much better. * 1/2

The same crew worked the same arena on Sunday, July 26th, 1992, and drew a bigger (capacity) house. The "gringo" match of the card saw Carl "The Natural" Hairston and "Air Jason" (Peters) defeating the rudissimo duo of The Thunder Machine and G. Q. Gregory (Greg Regalado), managed by The Shroud (Dan Farren), in a match in which a pique was started between Gregory and Jason. They even brawled out into the parking lot on this one. An unintentionally funny moment saw Hairston slip and fall down trying to do an Air Pillman. The main event of the card had el Jalisco primero, The Kiss (who is legitimately 1/3 of the current WWA World Trios Champions), and el Talisman Negro facing the legendary Al Murrieta, Khayyam, and el Enigma de Oro.

Much of the same crew worked Bell, California, on Friday, July 24th, 1992; the only result I have from that card is that Vandal Drummond again defeated el Fisico Nuclear two falls to one.

Much of this same crew worked Watsonville, California (near Santa Cruz) on Saturday, July 25th, 1992, this is the same card where Konnan el Barbaro, el Hijo del Santo, and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo had been advertised. They drew amost 1,000 fans and a gate of around \$9,500.00. To offset for the no-shows, everyone who paid more than \$10.00 for a ticket had his amount over \$10.00 automatically refunded, plus any full refunds would be honored and signs were clearly posted out front. The results saw: 1) el Mixteco defeated el Rayo de Plata ** 1/2; 2) King Kora defeated Arandu * 1/2; 3) el CHacal Rivera and el CHamaco Rebelde defeated Super Boy (Sergio Torres, brother of el Capitan Oro and el Principe Indu) and el Metalico (not the EMLL Mexico City-based el Metalico) in a real good *** 1/4 match; 4) Cosmos and el Capitan Oro defeated Scarfce and el Murella del Ring ***; and in the main event 5), el Escorpion Blanco, el Piloto Suicida, and el Mercurio defeated The Lover Boy, The Crazy Boy, and la Estampa Brava two falls to one in a spectacular (well, Suicida was said to have been spectacular) *** 1/2.

The same crew worked a travesty of a show at the Hollywood Palladium on Sunday, July 26th, 1992 (the show started at least 30:00 after the All Nations show). Konnan, Santito, and Aguayo missed this show, too. The arena had sold out for 2,530 paid + 170 freebies = capacity 2,700 for a gate of about \$55,000.00, but due to huges protests and very mad fans, fewer than 800 (maybe as few as 500) remained for the main event (which saw Ultraman Dos Mil, el Piloto Suicida, and el Mercurio face Bull Raiders, The Lover Boy, and The Crazy Boy). The promoters and arenas lost a ton of their gate on refunds and were swearing never to do business with the AAA again. Promoters Rudy Rojas, Karl Lauer, and booker Ricky Medina were not happy either (Medina quit halfway during the show). *12.8*

AAA

There is precious little news from the AAA territories this week. They did have an off-television title defense for Octagon. He defended his Mexican National Middleweight Championship versus the challenge of number one contender The Blue Panther on Friday, July 24th, 1992, at el Auditorio Municipal in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico.

Among the few results from the AAA world this week; just the two most recent television tapings. The first aired on Galavision Sunday, July 26, 1992; the second will air this coming Sunday, August 2, 1992.

First things first; the AAA show that aired this past Sunday had been taped on Friday, July 17, 1992, at el Auditorio Municipal in Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico. The *inicial* of the four-match card saw tecnicos Super Calo, el Rey Misterio junior (Oscar Gutierrez, ex-Colibri), and captain la Panterita del Ring defeat the rudo squadron of The Rose, Psicosis (who I am almost 100% certain is Erick Casas Ruiz, ex-el Canelo Casas and ex-Heavy Metal), and captain el Indomito (Vincente Carbajal) two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 15:24. The tecnicos won the first fall in 5:24 when Super Calo pinned Psicosis after an inside the ring, off of the top rope Liger flip (*mortal al frente*) onto Psicosis. The second fall went the way of the rudos, ending in 3:41 when The Rose pinned el Panterita del Ring. The Rose, who does a hilarious gay act, got on the top rope as if he were going to do a halfway across the ring off of the top rope diving body press a la Superfly Jimmy Snuka. Then, he simply hopped to the mat and did a little jumping splash for the pin. The rudos were disqualified in the third fall at the 6:17 mark when el Indomito handcuffed the wrists of la Panterita del Ring around the bottom rope, so that Panterita couldn't run away. This was too much even for rudo referee el Tirantes (aka el Suspenders, wearing the same nice psychedelic suspenders for the third straight week), who called for the DQ. (The other referee for this match was locally famous ref el Robotin.) I thought this was a very good match. I thought that in particular, Psicosis, el Rey Misterio junior, and la Panterita del Ring were very good, with Super Calo good and el Indomito fair. The Rose, however, gimmick-wise (he's not that solid of a worker yet), was excellent. He's not at the athletic level of a Pimpinela Escarata or a May Flowers and he's more soft-core, if I can use that term, in his gimmick a la Rudy "Perfumado" Reyna, but he was very solid in this match. During this match, the AAA commentators, Enrique (face) and Arturo Rivera (heel), lost the audio and called the match via telephone (really). At one point, the heel fans held up a "100% Rudo" sign and Art Rivera congratulated them. Then, when some ladies held up a "100% tecnico" sign, he said "*Las señoras no saben la lucha libre!*" which I thought came off just right. By the way, the crowd was super hot, but a brawling crowd, all night ong. I'd estimate that they sold out about 11,000 seats in this arena. At the end of the third fall, five of the wrestlers (all but el Indomito) did various *ropes* which unfortunately the cameras mostly missed; most were variations on the Liger flips, but it looked like once again el Rey Misterio junior had the best dive of the week. The crowd started throwing beer and paper at the rudos and generally this match came off super. I rate it at *** 5/8.

The *segunda* carried on the feud among the rudo super-mini-estrellas. Jerrito Estrada captained a team of himself, la Parquita, and el Picudito, the three newer of the six ruditos in the ring, versus the veteran ruditos el Espectrito (junior), el Pequeno Cobarde, and captain el Piratita Morgan. As usually happens in cases like this with two rudo teams battling, one ended up tecnico by the end of the night --in this case, Estrada's team. The first fall, though it appeared to have been slightly edited right at the start, lasted only 1:34 before out of nowhere el Picudito pinned el Piratita Morgan with the northern lights' suplex hold (isn't that a commonly used finishing hold amongst the American midgets, too?). To establish themselves as temporary faces, Estrada's team after the fall went over and shook the hands of their opponents, in essence saying "no hard feelings." The second fall went the way of Morgan's band, as in 3:33 el Espectrito (junior) pinned Jerrito Estrada with a half-turning over the top rope in the middle of the rope diving body press (splash). After this fall, Morgan's team pounded away mercilessly on Estrada's team with punches and kicks. The third fall, which may also have been joined in progress, lasted until the 8:22 mark when both teams were counted out of the ring during a wild melee. (That makes the total time of the match 13:29). Was it just my imagination or did both sets of rudo teams enjoy doing some tecnico spots they rarely get to do in their usual mode? I though el Espectrito, especially, was particularly refreshed. Both la Parquita and el Picudito are good, but to me the standout of this team, and the best little rudo in lucha libre, is still Jerrito Estrada (who is only 3"-4" shorter than Super Astro anyway). Somewhere during the second or third fall, however, el Pequeno Cobarde took a bump on the back of his head and split it open legit, and the white half of his half-black/half-white mask was getting to be mostly red by the end of the match. At another point, Estradita hit Morgancito with an open plastic big jug of water, both pounding and drenching Morgancito at the same time. El Espectrito did the best dive out of the ring in the third fall. After the match, Estrada, in another face-type move, challenged Morgan to a hair match, which Morgan would not accept. That match is not yet booked, but I expect that it will be fairly soon, and I couldn't predict to you who would win, though with Pena, if you don't know, guess the rudo. ** 1/2.

They also had a "Cartomentro del Ring" tonight, and as previewed last week here, el Hijo del Santo was listed as the number one tecnico (they actually only listed number ones in each category), which is hardly a suprise; Cien

the top tecnico; Cien Caras the top rudo; the team of Winners and Super Calo were the top pareja; the team of Octagoncito, la Mascarita Sagrada, and el Angelito Azteca were the top trio; and the top dive from the card of July, 10th was el Rey Misterio junior's somersault/crossrope dive.

The semifinal saw the second best AAA match air, in my opinion, in the the 10 weeks or nearly 40 matches, that have aired on AAA television since their first taping on May 15, 1992. In this match, el Misterioso, el Volador (Remo Banda), and captain el Angel Azteca defeated "el CHacho" Herodes (Victor Gongora), la Parca, and captain Rambo (Jose Luis "Pepito" Mendieta junior) two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 16:41. The first fall went 8:37 before el Misterioso pinned Herodes with the cover off of a blocked flip attempt. The second fall saw the rudo squadron come back in 3:08 when la Parca made el Angel Azteca submit to a side single leg boston crab submission hold. The third fall ended at the 4:56 mark when all three rudos were counted out of the ring after spectacular dives by all three tecnicos. Actually, the dives at the end weren't as spectacular as the dives at the end of the first match, but these pros were on the top of their game. Herodes worked hard; Rambo was his usual self; la Parca looked great; el Misterioso was a little off; el Angel Azteca was super; and el Volador was on another planet. The fans thought this was a four and a quarter beer match as that's about many beers the cameras caught the rudos receiving in the face from fans near ringside. At one point, a lady fan runs to ringside, takes off her golf hat, and starts hitting Rambo in the back of the leg with this extra light weight cap. The rudos even went into the crowd, got the "100% Rudos" sign I had mentioned earlier --which was made of wood-- and started whaling away at the tecnicos, breaking the board eventually over a tecnico's head. Soon the fans were throwing beer, paper, seat cushions, everything but money into the ring. Finally they go to the big dives. El Misterioso and el Volador were all set to do a combination springboard dive onto Herodes when Volador looked and Herodes wasn't there ready to catch him! So el Volador improvised with a nice plancha; the tecnicos won; and all lived happily ever after. **** 1/4. Highly recommended to everyone.

The main event saw Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo, la Mascara Sagrada, and captain Konnan el Barbaro defeat el Angel Blanco junior (making his AAA debut), Universo Dos Mil, and captain Jerry "el Puma" Estrada two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 15:48. The rudos dominated most of the first two falls. The first fall ended in 2:54 when el Angel Blanco junior rolled up Konnan el Barbaro. The second fall, after a ton of heat for the face comeback, saw Konnan el Barbaro defeat Universo Dos Mil in 6:36 with the *la carreta* submission hold, which is a sort of a reverse upside down boston crab submission hold. The third fall saw la Mascara Sagrada pin Universo Dos Mil clean in the center with a super *huitacatana* (the only *huitacatana* even attempted all night long) to set up their title match for one week later. Once again, the new mortal enemy of Konnan el Barbaro, el Cobarde II (called el Cobarde junior by the announcers), sat at ringside and tried to interfere versus Konnan, who left Cobarde laying in the third fall. This was a good match with a lot of heat, but the finish kind of came out of nowhere, and it still reminds me of WCW action in that it's hot action leading nowhere in particular (i.e., no organized long-range plan). Still, not bad: ***.

During the television show, they aired highlights from a benefit card held Tuesday, July 14, 1992, at el Gimnasio Municipal Benito Juarez in Cohistlan, Mexico, Mexico. It apparently was either an animal-rights benefit or a kind of SPCA benefit. There were four matches. In the first, Cien Shabu and el Gran Guerrero defeated las Espuelas de Oro I y II two falls to one. In the second, Vicky Carranza and Casandra defeated la Biosa and la Marquesa two falls to one via disqualification in the third fall (pulling the ref in the way of a wrestler). This was the first time I have had any indication in their two and one-half months of existence that the AAA has booked the womens' wrestlers, who appear in the power struggle to be in pretty tight with the EMLL. In the semifinal, Super Kiss, Super Star, and Super Calo defeated Super Brazo, el Picudo, and el Brazo de Platino two falls to one in a match highlightd by five big dives, especially Super Brazo's, at the end of the third fall. And finally, in the main event, Super Muneco, el Solar II, and el Hijo del Santo defeated el Espanto junior, Fuerza Guerrera, and la Parca two falls to one. It appeared obvious that the finish called for el Espanto junior to pull off the mask of el Hijo del Santo as they were running the ropes; but Espanto grabbed and missed and then fouled Santito for the automatic disqualification in the third fall.

Here are some (very few) non card-related or result-related notes: Konnan el Barbaro (Carlos Santiago Espada Moises) debuted with the World Wrestling Federation this past Sunday night, July 19th, 1992, in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, then worked Monday, July 20th's television taping as "Relampago" (it's Spanish for lightning). He got good reviews for his ring work, but really wasn't too over. He beat The Mercenary (aka Rambo, real name Jose Luis "Pepito" Mendieta junior) at the 20th's TV taping....The AAA expects to open formal Mexico City offices within the next month...For Los Angeles area readers, AAA television commentator revealed in Super Luchas magazine that while in Los Angeles, AAA wrestlers stayed in either the Holiday Inn Convention Center or The Western Hotel on Figueroa Street...That magazine also has protested the AAA "Cartometro del Ring," and has started one of its own. Recently, Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo and Atlantis were named the magazine's top two tecnicos, while the same week the AAA listed el Hijo del Santo. It also listed Jose "el Negro" Casas and Fishman as top two rudos; los Intocables del Ring and los Nuevos Infeinales were 1-2 trios; Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales and Xochitl Hamada were 1-2 luchadoras; and their big recent news was el Dandy's winning the CMLL World Middleweight Championship....That magazine, in a humorous vein, also bet that Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo has made more money than any other "dog" (including Rin Tin Tin or Benji) in entertainment history....The AAA also announced that it would hold its first ever convention the weekend of August 14th, 1992, in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. They plan to run a super card television taping that

will introduce a new type of trio tag team match called *Relevos AAA*. In this match, there will be two normal-sized wrestlers and one super-mini-estrella per team. For example, and this is an example only as the teams for the first match have NOT been set, you could have Fuerza Guerrera, Jerry "el Puma" Estrada, and Jerrito Estrada versus el Hijo del Santo, Octagon, and Octagoncito. The AAA gave this concept sort of a test run at the Cal State-Los Angeles card outdoors on June 14th but with the micro-super-estrellas and not the minis. It seemed to get over well enough with the crowd that I suspect as long as it's a rarity that it will also get over in Mexico.

The AAA also had a television taping this week at el Auditorio Municipal in Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes, Mexico, on Friday, July 24th, 1992, to air in Mexico City on July 26th and on Galavision on Sunday, August 2nd, 1992. Stop here and go to the next section ("UWA") if you don't want to know what happens before it airs on television. The main event saw Mexican National Light Heavyweight Champion Universo Dos Mil defend his title versus the challenge of la Mascara Sagrada. The seconds in this match were brother Cien Caras for Universo Dos Mil and el Sicodelico for la Mascara Sagrada. The first fall went pretty much according to plan, in harmony, as Sagrada took it from Dos Mil. The second fall saw el Sicodelico and la Mascara Sagrada begin to have problems; in fact, an error on their part caused Sagrada to lose the second fall. Wait, it gets worse. Then, Sagrada and el Sicodelico break up big time. Apparently, at the end of the third fall, Sagrada has Sicodelico rolled up for the pin and title change, but Cien Caras distracts the referee and el Sicodelico turns heel by attacking Sagrada and putting Universo on top for the win! Can you believe it? Well, stranger things have happened, but el Sicodelico as a main event heel in a main event feud? Oh boy.

I do not have any of the other matches or match results from the other three matches that aired, but I do believe that Psicosis is in the first match and that either Winners, Super Calo, and/or el Rey Misterio junior (or some combination thereof) are among Psicosis's rudo opponents. Dave Meltzer tells me he was told that Psicosis was a Tijuana guy that Konnan brought in, but I *still* think it's Erick Casas. Also, in the *Ovaciones* of Monday, July 27th, 1992, los Destruyores, Tony Arce and el Vulcano, are interviewed. They state that they have obtained a title rematch against the team that took the Mexican National Parejas Championships away from them on March 8, 1992, that team being el Misterioso and el Volador. That match is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo de Monterrey in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, and that may be on next week's television. Lastly, Dave Meltzer reported in his July 27th, 1992, of The Wrestling Observer Newsletter that la Parca is the well-regarded Mexico City independent wrestler el Principe Island, a 26-year old with a 10-year career. Dave also found out that one of the Ninja Turtles is the old Danny Boy, and that he will be re-forming the original "los Arqueros del Espacio" trio team (former Mexican National Trios Champions) with Lasser (current UWA World Lightweight Champion and one of the most underrated wrestlers in Mexico) and Robin Hood (who never got over well as Super Atomo). The AAA expects to bring in Tinieblas I, el Hijo de Tinieblas, and Alushe (although I have my doubts about el Hijo de Tinieblas as Pacc Alonso wants him real bad), Rocky Santana (el Tortugillo Karateka I/Donatelo), el Pirata Morgan (I really doubt that pick), Aaron Grondy (I doubt this one too), Doctor Wagner junior and el Loco Zandokan from the UWA (these two are more likely), and Thunderbird from Tijuana.

UWA

How about starting things off with the latest news, for once? Unlike what I print on other pages, Abdullah The Butcher will not be in until next week. The main event from the el Toreo card held Sunday, July 26, 1992, saw Kokina, el Gigante Warrior, and el Bufalo Allen defeating Canek, el Loco Zandokan, and Doctor Wagner junior in two straight falls. The finish saw Kokina pin Canek with a big splash cleanly and then challenges Canek for a shot at Canek's UWA World Heavyweight Championship (which will probably also take place next Sunday). The semifinal saw Dos Caras and el Villano III defeated los Cazadores del Cabezas I y II (The Head Hunters A and B) in three *luchas disputada* falls. The *tercera* saw Kahos I, el Scorpio junior, el Bucanero junior, and Shu, el Guerrero win two out of three falls from Lasser, el Matematico I, el Ojo de Tigre, and el Tortugillo Karateka I (Donatelo, aka Rocky Santana). Santana ripped up Scorpio's mask real bad as well. The *estelar* saw Sato (ex-Sakigake Gantetsu), Enrique Vera senior, and el Villano V defeating los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro) two falls to one via disqualification in the third fall. This was a non-title match, as the Misioneros are the current UWA World Trios Champions. The *segunda* saw The King, el Villano I, and el Villano IV defeat Aero Flash, Transformer, and el Tigre Canadiense in a rare *tecnico contra tecnico* bout. and the *inicial* saw el Celestial and el Ninja Sasuke win two out of three falls from Zeus and el Engendro. Also, I have full details of the big card held Monday, July 27th, 1992, at a Arena Puebla. The main event was re-figured to match the team of Kokina, el Bufalo Allen, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow) and the team of Silver King, el Texano, and Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada. The semifinal saw Korak, el Villano IV, and el Villano V face Shu, el Guerrero, and The Head Hunters A and B. This is a real opportunity for Korak to prove that he belongs with the UWA big boys. The second match on the card saw Transformer, el Tigre Canadiense, and el Villano I team up to face los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte in a non-title match (boy have the Misioneros fallen from grace or what - they barely are work more than openers anymore). And the opener saw Zandokita, Rambito, and el Engendro face Sato, el Celestial, and el Ninja Sasuke.

I have very few results from the UWA territory this week. One. Their television taping was pre-empted this week (and may also be for the next two Saturdays) because channel 13 in Mexico City (Imevision) has rights to much of the Olympic Games in the Mexico City market. Titanes del Ring reports that on Friday, July 3rd, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in Netzahualcoyotl, Mexico, Mexico, the trio of The Black Scorpio, el Coloso, and captain Enrique Vera senior defeated the rudo squadron of el Loco Zandokan, The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow), and Rambo two falls to one when Vera pinned Rambo clean in the third fall. The result is explained by the fact that Rambo had pretty much already given his notice to jump from UWA to AAA. You'll notice that I said Enrique Vera senior above. He is introducing his son, Enrique Vera junior, soon; right now, junior, as interviewed by senior lucha libre correspondent Francisco Arturo Rosas Plata in the issue of Tuesday, July 21st, 1992, of Ovaciones, Mexico City's most lucha-libre conscious all-sports daily newspaper, is in training at "el Gimnasio Olimpia" at the corner of Garibaldi and Bombay streets in Mexico City. Oh, for results, I should have the results of Sunday's el Toreo card at the end of this section. The el Toreo main event was set to feature the Mexico debut of Abdullah el Carniceria, as he would team with el Gigante Warrior and el Bufalo Allen to face the Mexican trio of Canek, el Loco Zandokan, and Doctor Wagner junior, the last of whom was quoted in the papers as xenophobically saying how these foreign rudos couldn't hold a candle to the Mexican rudos. That foreign team is very odd politically, as Butcher is a long-time All Japan mainstay, Allen is a long-time New Japan mainstay, and Warrior, who I believe is booked by Victor Quinones, is most likely to work W*ING if he goes back to Japan again.

I do have some of the main events and in a couple of cases the whole cards for the UWA on tour this week:

* The traditional Thursday night card at la Pista Arena Revolucion, held July 23rd, 1992, saw a main event matching los Cazadores del Cabezas I y II (The Head Hunters A and B), who teamed with el Bufalo Allen, as they faced the team of el Villano III and his partners, los Efectivos or los Cowboys, whichever you prefer (Silver King and el Texano). The semifinal saw el Gran Hamada (Haraoki Hamada), el Tigre Canadiense (Mike Lozansky), and Transformer (ex-Kendo) face the rudo squadron of el Loco Zandokan, The Babe Face I, and Shu, el Guerrero. The *segunda* saw Zeus (ex Rey Richard, real name Andres Solano Vazquez) team with el Bucanero junior to face the team of Sato and el Ninja Sasuke. Sato is Shigetatsu Satoh, who wrestles regularly for the Universal Wrestling Federation in Japan as "Sakigake Gantetsu." Sasuke is Masanori Murakawa, who wrestles for the Japanese UWF as "The Great Sasuke" and used to have the ring name "Masa Michinoku." The *inicial* on the card saw Bat Blue and Spraiman face el Angel Negro and el Viento Negro.

* The UWA traditionally runs Thursday night cards at la Arena Toluca in Toluca, the capital city of the state of Mexico. July 23rd was no exception. Canek headlined, teaming with el Gigante Warrior as they faced Enrique Vera senior and el Coloso. The semifinal saw the rookie Aero Flash and el Vagabundo face the legitimate father and son duo of los Soberbanos senior and junior. The *segunda* had los Rayos Tapatios I y II (they're good, as judged by the two to three times highlights of their matches have aired on UWA television) facing Rambito and Zandokitan. These two are not midgets, just small versions of their larger namesakes. The *inicial* saw Hombre de Fuego vs. el Leopardo Negro.

* For the rest of these cards I have just the main events. Wrestling coverage was reduced in the newspapers due to the Olympics. The main event of the card held Friday, July 24th, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in Mexico City's largest suburb of the same name (it's the suburb that the airport is located in) found Enrique Vera, Dos Caras, and el Villano III facing el Gigante Warrior, el Bufalo Allen, and Shu, el Guerrero.

* The traditional Saturday night card at la Arena Isabel in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, Mexico's garden city, on July 25th saw Canek and The Doctor Wagner junior booked to fight el Bufalo Allen and el Gigante Warrior.

* Sunday, July 26th, 1992, saw a *mano a mano revancha en superlibre* main event at la Arena Toluca, as el Rayo Tapatío I was challenged by rudo el Sevillano. There were no other stipulations (mask, hair) to this match.

In UWA news that is not directly card-related or result-related:

The Custodia magazine article on lucha libre this week, cover dated August 4th, 1992, explores the tragic death in a training gym of lady wrestler Laura Violeta Morales Reyes, who died around June 7th in Netzahualcoyotl. The magazine, which is usually thorough and trustworthy, concludes that this really was an accident and, sadly, accidents do happen....These foreigners are currently working for the UWA office: Abdullah The Butcher, el Tigre canadiense, Sato, el Ninja Sasuke, Kokina, el Gran Hamada (dual citizenship), el Gigante Warrior, The Head Hunters An and B, and, according to Ovaciones, The Killer and Andy Barrow, although The Killer is actually Mexican pretending to be from the Bronx....The Black Scorpio and el Scorpio junior seem to be on the road to a mask versus mask match....UWA and sometimes independent wrestler Kundra was interviewed in the Super Luchas of July 16th, 1992. Oddly enough, his full-time job is that of a driving (automobile) instructor! He was born in the colonia Pensil area of Mexico City and debuted last year at la Arena Naucalpan in a tag-team tournament with Talisman junior as his partner. A tecnico, he was trained first by old Yaqui Joe and then by Dick Angelo senior, the same *maestro* who trained Fuerza Guerrera. He has won no titles but has wrestled in four separate title matches....Grupo ACIR radio

station, which has a weekly Sunday half-hour (2:30 pm-3:00 pm) lucha libre show entitled "Sin Limite de Tiempo," hosted by the original Hara Kiri and Wifredo Gomez, on I believe 1530 AM, celebrated its one-year anniversary with a special show on Wednesday, July 15, 1992....Titanes del Ring recently interviewed several UWA stars. El Gigante Warrior claimed to be 190 cm tall and 104 kg, both of which seem a little small to me. He said he debuted in New York City on August 19, 1981, and was trained some by Billy Anderson and some by Dory Funk, Junior....New luchador el Forajido was also interviewed. He said that he was trained by el Charrito de Oro (he's not the first I've heard of who was trained by el Charrito de Oro); that he lost his debut in 1987 to el Pavorreal (who still works occasional UWA openers, too); that his regular pareja partner is el Tenebroso Tacandon; and that he works out in Mexico City at the "Gimnasio de Banos Mexico."...Several UWA wrestlers were cornered by the magazine right before the 5/31/92 el Toreo card and persuaded to give laudatory quotations and pose for photographs with the magazine....Finally, the magazine interviewed la Sombra Negra (The Black Shadow junior). He admitted that his first match, as el Pequeno Solin, was back on November 4, 1964. He said he has won 46 masks matches and 9 mask versus hair matches, but also lost a mask versus mask match to el Hijo del Santo in late 1991. He also said that he had been WWA World Lightweight Champion twice and Mexican National Featherweight Champion once.

FMLL

Let's start off with results here too. Going backwards chronologically, let's go to la Pista Arena Revolucion this past Sunday, July 26th, 1992. In the main event, the strange trio of el Brazo, el Brazo de Oro, and el Metalico {el Metalico replaced the no-showing Aaron Grondy, who may have jumped to the AAA} defeated the rudo squadron of los Cavernicolas I, II, and III (Popitekus, Troglodita, and Oro Magnon) two falls to one. The semifinal saw an all-rudo battle as The Team From Beyond The Grave (el Espectro junior, el Espectro de Ultratumba, and el Cadaver de Ultratumba) defeated Ulises Plus, Gargola el Sultan, and el Supremo I two falls to one. And in the only other result I have, in the *tercera*, el Escudero Rojo and el Bello Incognitio beat the duo of el Gran Apache I and el Pegaso 2-1.

Now back to the television taping last Friday, night, July 24th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo. The main event saw Lizmark, Atlantis, and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon win two out of three falls from the rudo dream team of la Bestia Salvaje, Emilio Charles junior, and el Felino. Dragon pinned Bestia to win the first fall with the german suplex hold. Bestia pinned Dragon to end the second fall after giving Dragon a missile kick (off of the top rope drop kick) while Felino was holding Dragon on his (Felino's) shoulders. The third fall saw Dragon defeat Salvaje via count out of the ring after doing *la quebrada* (the Asai moonsault) onto Salvaje; at the same time, Lizmark was pinning el Felino clean in the middle with the power bomb. This was rated at ** 3/4 by Lucha Libre Weekly correspondent David M. Scherer of Seaville/Marmora, New Jersey. That was a disappointing grade considering the level of talent involved. I'd love to see a Salvaje/Dragon feud though. The semifinal saw the television debut of la Mascara Magica (Eddy Guerrero), as he teamed with brothers Ringo and el Cachorro Mendoza to defeat the rudo trio of el Hijo del Solitario, el Supremo I, and Javier "el Monarca" Cruz two falls to one. The finish of both the first and third falls saw la Mascara Magica pin Cruz. This was rated at **. Scherer had a nice line when talking about Soli, calling him "Mister Potato Head with pipe cleaner arms." How apropos. The *tercera* saw el Trio Metalico (Oro, Plata, and Bronce) win two falls with pipe cleaner arms. The finish of the second fall saw one of the cavemen disqualified for straight falls over las Cavernicolas I, II, and III. The Metals were said to have done nice dives but the cavemen were major disappointments. Scherer awards al of his ** 3/4 to the Metals. The *segunda* saw el Archangel de la Muerte, el Guerrero de la Muerte, and el Cadaver de Ultratumba win two out of three falls over Ciclón Ramirez, Talisman junior, and el Solar II. This was surprisingly good, featuring the young fliers of the night, and though Scherer also gave this match a grade of ** 3/4, he, when pressed, called it the best match of the night. The finish of the third fall saw the very underrated Archangel pin the veteran of the six, el Solar II, with the german suplex hold. The inicial from the card of the 24th did not air, but they did show the finishes of the three falls from the main event of the card the prior Tuesday night, July 21st, at la Arena Coliseo. There, el Hijo del Solitario, Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, and el Satanico defeated Apolo Dantes, el Hijo de Lizmark, and Lizmark two falls to one. The finish of the third fall saw Soli fake as if Dantes had fouled him (there was no such foul) and the refs bought it and awarded the match via DQ to the rudos.

Now I don't know the date for this, but around July 12th, 1992, in Cuautla, Morelos, Mexico, la Sirenita (Guadalupe Beil Pena) defeated Neftali to become the Mexican National Ladies' Heavyweight Wrestling Champion!

On Saturday, July 18, 1992, at la Pista Arena Revolucion, Japanese lady wrestlers Yumiko Hotta and Suzuka Minami debuted as rudas in Mexico. They teamed with Kaoru Maeda but lost in three falls to Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, la Sirenita, and Xochitl Hamada when Maeda was disqualified in the third fall for pulling the referee illegally in the way of one of the Mexican luchadora's dives.

On Saturday, July 11th, 1992, at the 39th anniversary card at la Arena Puebla, Pierroth junior successfully defended his CMLL World Light Heavyweight Championship by defeating el Pirata Morgan two falls to one. Morgan won the second fall with the *cavernaria* and Pierroth the third cleanly with the side *Gori Especial*/submission hold. In the semifinal, Kato Kung Lee I, el Rayo de Jalisco junior, and Apolo Dantes won two out of three falls from el

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(EMLL continued from page 7) Satanico, Nitron, and Emilio Charles junior. The only other match result I have is from the *tercera* where tecnicos el Jabato and el Filoso defeated rudos Toro Bill and el Supremo 1 two falls to one, in which the hair match between el Toro Bill and el Jabato for July 18th was set up.

Finally, for results, from July 7th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo, the main event definitely saw Apolo Dantes, el Hijo de Tinieblas, and captain el Rayo de Jalisco junior win two out of three falls from Jose "el Negro" Casas, Emilio Charles junior, and Gargola el Sultan, in a match highlighted by big dives in both the second and third falls. The semifinal saw Ringo Mendoza, el Solar II, and el Jalisco win two out of three falls from The team From Beyond The Grave (el Espectro junior, el Espectro de Ultratumba, and el Cadaver de Ultratumba). The *tercera* saw Xochitl Hamada, Selene, and Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales win two out of three falls from Kaoru Maeda, la Venus, and Tania la Berrerinda.

I also have recent cards/main events from around the EMLL territory. Monday, July 27th, at the el Deportivo Gymnasium in Mexico City saw Oro and Plata face el Felino and el Hijo del Gladiador (that'll be a good match) in the main event...Sunday, July 26th, 1992, at la Arena Naucalpan, saw the debuting The Big Bang (supposedly an American) team up with el Guerrero de la Muerte and el Archangel de la Muerte to face Lizmark, America, and Ringo Mendoza...Sunday the 26th saw Mexico's other wrestling priest, el Cristero, in action; he teamed up with la Magia Blanca and el Halcon Guerrero to face el Macho II, el Paramedico, and the debuting el Golpeador....The main event at la Arena Coliseo for 7/26 had la Bestia Salvaje, el Satanico, and Javier "el Monarca" Cruz booked to face the tecnico trio of Lizmark, Ringo Mendoza, and Black Magic....Saturday, July 25th, at la Pista Arena Revolucion saw Atlantis, America, and el Rayo de Jalisco junior face la Bestia Salvaje, Gargola el Sultan, and Ulises Plus....Also on 7/25, Geniminis met el Vendoval in a hair match at la Arena Xochimilco....Also on 7/25, la Manchoa met el Ciclón Azul in a hair match at la Arena Apatlaco in Iztapalapa, Mexico....Also on 7/25, at la Arena Puebla, el Satanico defended his NWA World Light Heavyweight Championship versus the challenge of Apolo Dantes...Wednesday, July 15th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo de Acapulco saw Oro meet el Felino in a singles match with no other stipulations....And finally for these card rundowns, el Dandy defended his CMLL World Middleweight Championship on Tuesday, July 14th, 1992, versus Jose "el Negro" Casas at la Arena Iraputao in Iraputao, Guanajuato, Mexico.

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